

Item #5- Trails Miles

Evaluation Objectives: To evaluate whether adequate miles of trails are being provided to meet visitor needs.

Methods: Evaluation of miles of trails, visitor use, and field observations.

Results and Evaluation:

Trail Miles

NFS Flathead National Forest total 2246 miles

Table 5-1. Miles of Trails by Trail Activity

Types of trails	Miles
Motorized ATV	30.5
Motorized single track	115
Hiking only - Jewel Basin	50
Stock and Saddle (wilderness and non-motorized)	1807.0
Snowmobiling on groomed system	157.6
Cross country skiing on groomed system	42.6
ATV	30.5
Bicycle	21.0

*Infra data base 8/5/2011

The forest manages eight National Recreation Trails that total 69.18 miles in length. The forest also manages a 19.5 miles of the Continental Divide Scenic Trail located within the Bob Marshall Wilderness.

Table 5-2. Miles of National Recreation Trails

District	National Recreation Trail	Miles
Tally Lake	Danny Onn Memorial Trail #370	5
	Lupine Lake # 210	4
	Elk Mountain # 252	9
Swan Lake	Blacktail ORV #917,918,919	13
	Holland Falls # 416	1.6
Glacier View/Hungry Horse	Smokey Range # 270	10.33
	Ralph Thayer Trail # 26	17
	Whitefish Divide Trail # 26	9.25
Total		69.18

Table 5-3. Miles of National Scenic Trails

District	National Scenic Trail	Miles
Spotted Bear	Continental Divide Scenic Trail	
	East Fork Strawberry #161	11.8
	Badger Cutoff #147	2.1
	Sun River Pass #116	1.2
	Bowl Creek #324	4.4
	Total	19.5

Recommended Actions: Strive to maintain trail construction/re-construction at 25 miles per year; trail maintenance 700-900 miles per year depending on funding. Continue to update the Trails Infra data base. In the Infra data base, document new trail miles and removal of any designated trail miles with appropriate NEPA documentation. Trail targets are now tracked in Infra and should be entered as trail construction projects are completed. In addition, create a folder for the Forest Trail Travel Plan Atlas for each trail. In each trail file a copy of the trail map, photos, signed TMO, easements if appropriate, and associated NEPA documentation should be filed.